Rules regarding X-ray examination in the General Hospital.

77. * **Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai**: Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have laid down any rules for X-ray examination in the General Hospital, Trivandrum, and, if so, what they are ;

(*b*) whether there is any X-ray expert in the General Hospital in charge of the X-ray Section, and, if so, what his pay is ;

(*c*) whether any scale of fee has been prescribed for X-ray examination, if so, by whom and what they are and on what basis the same is fixed ;

(*d*) whether the whole fee realised by conducting X-ray examination is credited to Government, and, if not, whether the same is shared by any one else ;

(*e*) if the answer to part (*d*) is in the affirmative, in what proportion the fee is shared and what is the justification for so doing ; and

(*f*) whether the X-ray expert is allowed to have private practice ?

Mr. James Simpson (*Darbar Physician*) : (*a*) Yes, a copy of the rules * is laid on the table.

(*b*) Yes ; the scale of pay is Rs. 200-50/3-450.

(*c*) Yes ; by Government. The scale of charges is as follows :—

Radio-graphic examination of		Rs.
1. Hands, feet, long bones	...	4.
2. Jaws, teeth, thorax and limb joint	...	8.
3. Skull, urinary tract and spine	...	10.
4. Bismuth meal (Alimentary canal)	...	15.
5. Electrical Massage	...	1.
(also for Ionisation, Diathermy, Radiant heat, etc.)		
6. X-ray treatment	...	3.

The fees were fixed on the basis of the recommendations of the Administrative Board, Medical Services, and having regard to the following considerations :—

(1) The cost involved in the purchase of machinery, film and other accessories ;

(2) The rates obtaining in X-ray establishments elsewhere ; and

(3) The paying capacity of the people.

(*d*) No. The fee realised is shared by the Government, the Radiologist and his Assistant.

* *Vide* Appendix IV at pages 447 & 448.

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(*e*) 50 per cent. to Government, 33 1/3 per cent. to the Radiologist and 16 2/3 per cent. to his Assistant in view of the risky nature of the work done by them.

(*f*) He is not debarred from general private practice but he has no scope for private practice in the special branch of his work.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know from the member whether in a case where a doctor, who wants to diagnose the disease of a patient, is allowed to have X-ray examination for that purpose, the department realises any fees from the patient ?

Mr. James Simpson : If a patient is brought to the X-ray Department from outside for examination he has to produce a certificate that he is too poor to pay the charge from a Government Medical Officer or a qualified medical practitioner in which case no fee is realised.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : Suppose there is an accident due to a fall and the patient is injured. In that case is there the necessity for a certificate as to whether he is rich or poor and will the X-ray examination be conducted only after the receipt of the certificate ?

Mr. James Simpson : The X-ray examination has to be conducted only after it is found necessary.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : Suppose it is found that in a case X-ray examination is necessary. Will the department conduct X-ray examination before it is ascertained whether the patient is rich or poor.

Mr. James Simpson : Yes.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : May I know what is the exact nature of the risk that the doctor in charge of the X-ray work might have to experience ?

Mr. James Simpson : X-ray work has always been known in Medicine to involve a considerable amount of risk as dermatitis and epithelioma. The doctors who attend to that work have to subject themselves to many exposures to X-rays.

Mr. K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : May I know whether it is on account of the incompetency of the doctor who handles the apparatus that the risks are resulting or is it quite ordinary that such risks are inevitable by using that apparatus ?

Mr. James Simpson : There is a great risk. One of the famous pioneers in Edinburgh died from cancer starting from his fingers due to his frequent exposures to X-ray.

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Appendix IV.

***Vide* Answer to Question No. 77.**

Rules for the X-ray Department in the General Hospital, Trivandrum.

1. The X-ray Department consists of several branches dealing with all kinds of radio-graphs, radio-therapeutics and electro-therapeutic work.

2. Only cases in which the diagnosis is doubtful should be sent for X-ray examination.

3. The following records will be maintained in the X-ray Department :—

(*a*) Registers to show the daily record of work done in all branches.

(*b*) Stock book of apparatus and stores.

(*c*) Register showing the names of patients who receive treatment on payment of fees together with the fees charged and the name of medical men responsible for the case.

4. No X-ray examination will be made or treatment carried out in the X-ray Department without a written requisition and instructions as to what is required from one of the medical staff of a Hospital or from a qualified medical practitioner.

5. (*a*) A charge shall be levied in accordance with the scale fixed in clause (*c*) below in the case of all patients including, in-patients other than those who are certified to be too poor to pay by a Government Medical Officer or a qualified medical practitioner.

(*b*) Fifty per cent. of the fees realised from the patients should be credited to Government the remaining fifty per cent. being given to the X-ray Specialist (who should share the same with his Assistant in the ratio of 2 : 1).

(*c*) The scale of charges will be as follows :—

Radio-graphic examination of

		Rs.
1.	Hands, feet, long bones ...	4
2.	Jaws, teeth, thorax and limb joint ...	8
3.	Skull, urinary tract and spine ...	10
4.	Bismuth meal (alimentary canal) ...	15
5.	Electrical Massage (also for Ionisation, Diaterny, Radiant heat, etc.) ...	Re. 1
6.	X-ray treatment ...	Rs. 3

(N. B.—*Vide* Government Notifications R. Dis. No. 1393/27/E. A., dated 22-9-1927, R. Dis. No. 1197/29/Genl, dated the 29th August 1929 and R. Dis. No. 210/31/L. G. B., dated the 19th February 1931.

Rules for the use of the Portable X-ray Apparatus.

1. X-ray examination will be conducted in any house in Trivandrum town which has a supply of electric current from the town mains and will be available to the public on payment of a fee of Bh. Rs. 30 for examination of alimentary canal and Bh. Rs. 20 for all

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other examinations, in addition to the scheduled rates in force at present and car hire.

2. If private parties are prepared to bring their own cars suited to the requirements of the Specialist and the safety of the articles to be conveyed to and fro, the same will be accepted in lieu of motor car hire.

3. Fifty per cent. of the fees realised from the patients should be credited to Government, the remaining fifty per cent. being given to the X-ray Specialist.

4. The X-ray Specialist may take with him an attendant or a warder to be in charge of the machinery and to help him in fitting up the machine. A fee of Rs. 2 should be paid to the attendant by the Specialist from his remuneration.

Sd.
Chief Secretary to Government.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum, 5th August 1931.

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—(*contd.*)

President : The House will proceed to the discussion of the demands for grants.

DEMAND No. XIII—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : Sir, I rise to move for the grant of a sum of Rs. 63,500 under Demand XIII—General Administration—Legislative Bodies.

Mr. J. John Kattakayam: ഒരു രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ശ്രേയസ്സ് അവിടത്തെ ഭരണരീതിയേയും പ്രജകളുടെ സാമ്പത്തികോല്ക്കർഷത്തേയും ആശ്രയിച്ചിരിക്കുമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. നികുതികൊടുക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള വിഷമത്തെപ്പറ്റിയും, ജനങ്ങളുടെ ദുരിതാവസ്ഥയെപ്പറ്റിയും, കടത്തിനു വേണ്ടി വാറണ്ടിൽ പിടിച്ചു കൊണ്ടു പോകുന്നതിനെപ്പറ്റിയും മറ്റും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടു് കുറെ മുൻപുവരെ ആരും പ്രതിപ്പെട്ടിട്ടില്ല. കുറഞ്ഞൊരു കാലമായി അഹമഹമികയാ ജനപ്രതിനിധികളും പത്രപംക്തികളും വഴിയായും ഹർജികളും ഡെപ്യൂട്ടേഷനും മാർഗ്ഗമായും മറ്റും സങ്കടങ്ങൾ അറിയിച്ചു കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതിന്റെ കാരണം എന്താണ് എന്നു് ഗവണ്മെൻറു് അവധാനപൂർവം ചിന്തിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. കരം കുറയ്ക്കണമെന്നോ മറ്റു തരത്തിലുള്ള ദാക്ഷിണ്യങ്ങൾ കാണിയ്ക്കണമെന്നോ ഇതുവരെ അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ? ഒരിയ്ക്കലുമില്ല. അടിക്കടി ഉണ്ടായിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന വിഷമങ്ങളെ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ കണ്ണുപടങ്ങളിൽ കൊണ്ടുചെല്ലുന്നതിനു തന്നെ സാധിക്കാതെയാണിരിക്കുന്ന

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